

REMARKS

Applicants affirm the election to proceed with claims 1-5 and 10-20 [Group I, Species B].

Claims 1 - 5 and 10 - 20 have been rejected under §§ 102 and 103. These claims have been cancelled.

Submitted herewith are new claims which Applicants believe define patentable subject matter.

§ 102 Rejection

Claims 1 - 5, 10 - 14, and 19 have been rejected under § 102 based on Adams (U.S. 6,932,883). These claims have been cancelled.

New independent claim 44 recites these limitations:

- a. sensing different portions of the at least one layer of screening material during heating thereof
- b. controlling heat applied to the different portions of the at least one layer of screening material during heating thereof

Claims 45 - 57, by dependency from new claim 44, recite these same limitations.

Adams has no teaching or suggestion of limitations a. and b. above.

None of the cited references has any teaching or suggestion of these limitations.

Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims discussed above are not anticipated by Adams and that these claims define subject matter patentable with respect to Adams.

§ 102 Rejection

Claims 1 - 3, 5, 10 - 14, and 19 have been rejected under § 102 based on Winkler et al (U.S. 2002/0000399). These claims have been cancelled.

Applicants repeat here the limitations a. and b. as listed above and the discussion of these limitations.

Winkler et al has no teaching or suggestion of limitations a. and b. listed above.

Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims discussed above are not anticipated by Winkler et al and that these claims define subject matter patentable with respect to Winkler et al.

§ 103 Rejections

All the claims 1 - 5 and 10 - 20 have been rejected under § 103 based on various references. These claims have been cancelled.

Each new claim presented here, [other than new claim 56] includes the limitations a. and b. listed and discussed above. No reference cited in the § 103 rejections teaches or suggests what is claimed in these limitations.

Neither the Umezawa et al reference (U.S. 6,398,899) nor the Beck reference (U.S. 3,514,834) teaches or suggests cooling as now claimed in new Claim 56. Claim 57 in reciting cooling to 88°F in about 2 to 4 minutes recites subject matter neither taught nor suggested by either Umezawa or Beck - two references which have nothing to do with screen assemblies for vibratory separators.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims discussed here define nonobvious, patentable subject matter.

Double Patenting

Claims 1 - 5, 10 - 14 and 19 - 20 have been rejected for double patenting, based on various references.

These claims have been canceled.

Applicants repeat here the comments above regarding the new claims submitted here, the cited references, and particularly the Umezawa and Beck references.

Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims submitted here claim subject matter not obvious with respect to the references cited in the double patenting

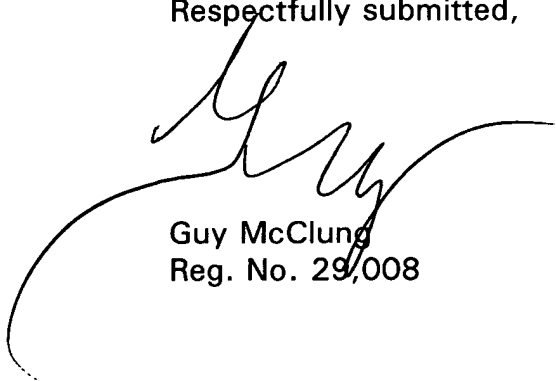
rejection (in any possible combination).

Conclusion

Applicants appreciate the careful and detailed Office Action. This is intended to be a complete Response to the Office Action. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 28 Feb 06


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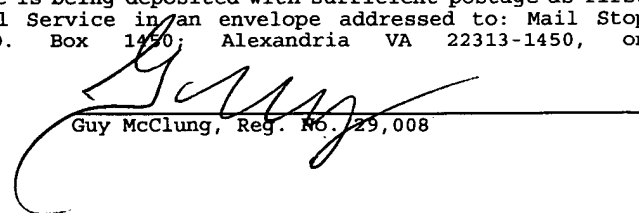
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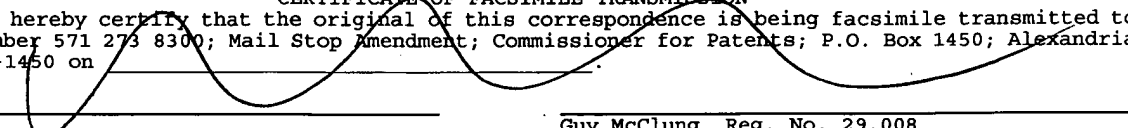
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